

## THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN

A WEEKLY JOURNAL  
OF  
LOCAL NEWS AND HOME READING,  
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NEWS ITEMS, NOTICES AND REPORTS MUST BE SENT TO THE OFFICE NOT LATER THAN THURSDAY EVENING OF EACH WEEK, IF THEY ARE TO APPEAR IN THE CURRENT NUMBER.

TRANSIENT NOTICES, FIFTY CENTS FOR EIGHT LINES, EACH INSERTION. FOR LARGER SPACE AND PERMANENT LISTS, APPLY AS ABOVE.

## THE WATER SUPPLY.

It has been very generally understood for some weeks past, that the amount of water which the East Orange Water Company has already obtained at their pumping works on Grove Street is much greater than was expected, and is more than sufficient to supply the township of East Orange, either at the present time, or with any population which that township is likely to reach. In fact, the managers of the Water Company are of the opinion that these springs are practically inexhaustible.

The Company recently invited citizens of Bloomfield to visit their works and test the water and personally inspect the springs and pumps. This invitation was accepted, and the gentlemen who were present became satisfied, that, if the quantity of water was as great as the company claimed it to be, it was a favorable opportunity for Bloomfield to secure the many advantages which a public water supply alone can furnish.

The Water Company desire to extend their mains into Bloomfield, and have stated that they are willing to make a contract with us on about the same terms as that made with East Orange. That is, they are willing to lay mains through such streets as the Town Committee shall designate, provided that there shall be at least five miles of mains laid; to these mains they will attach hydrants about five hundred feet apart, so as to have ten hydrants to every mile of main. They guarantee a full and adequate supply of water for public or private use at all times; and agree to furnish water for private purposes for prices which are to be no greater than Newark now charges for the same thing. Water for use in case of fire, for sprinkling streets, or any other public purpose may be had without extra charge. So much in brief for what the Company is to do. The Township is asked to make a contract with the Company by which we agree to pay them for a term of ten years the sum of sixty dollars per year for each hydrant erected, that is, the sum of three thousand dollars per year if but five miles of main are laid, and, if the Town Committee wish mains laid through other streets in addition to the five miles, then each additional mile is to cost at the rate of six hundred dollars per year. These are, in general, the terms upon which water may be at once introduced into Bloomfield. And when we remember that we are not asked to run into debt even to the extent of one dollar; that we do not have to pay any portion of the cost of water-works, engines, or mains; that we are not responsible for repairs or salaries, or any other form of necessary expense; that we are dealing with honorable and reliable men, who guarantee to furnish the water according to the terms of the contract; that this contract is not perpetual, but may be renewed for a second term of ten years at the option of the Town Committee; and that the sum to be paid annually is but little in excess of interest on the cost of laying mains and putting up hydrants, it will be clear that none of our neighboring cities have been able to obtain water on terms nearly so favorable.

The Town Committee at their regular meeting on Wednesday evening passed a resolution calling a public meeting of the citizens at Upper Library Hall, on Friday evening, June 15, to consider this matter. Meanwhile we trust an intelligent discussion of the subject will lead to a full attendance of all of our citizens.

We publish this week an original story from one of our Bloomfield writers. We have the assurance that it is the first essay of its author in this direction, and we therefore print it quite as it has been sent in. We think that the reading and comment upon it in its present form will be more valuable than if it received our correction and revision in advance. It may, however, be safely assumed that we consider it to possess merit or we should not give it place. To the author and to all those who are thus stimulated to try their powers of fancy and expression, we offer our hearty encouragement.

## THE ECONOMY OF VICE.

In a recent number of the CITIZEN, we republished an ingenious and striking article from the *Popular Science Monthly*. It was the work of Mr. John McElroy, and its pith was the idea that vice and folly are self-limited, and that the lives of the criminal and sensual classes are shortened in consequence. It was a study upon the old lines of the Rev. T. A. Malthus (and upon the more modern methods of Mrs. Besant and Mr. Bradlaugh) of the question of over-population.

The author argues—and with the same ingenious zeal which we find in many earlier works—that all partial evil is universal good; and that, in point of fact, there is a sort of predestinated destruction which falls, and ought to fall, upon the wicked. For some portions of his argument we have the most profound respect. Its conclusions are, in certain particulars, sanctioned by human experience, and its solution of occasional problems and enigmas is possibly the only one that is tenable. It would be a very remarkable world indeed, if selfishness and lust and crime produced either happiness or security. And it would be a still more remarkable world if, in some manner, there was not a premonition of judgment upon evil. Society would otherwise be broken down, and the laws which are now the mortar to its separate stones and bricks would be like so much untempered mud.

The Bible has a notable verse which declares that "some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment, and some men they follow after." It is this first and patent proposition that the article which we printed seems to enforce. But it—like most clever essays of this character—is altogether too radical to be safe.

Let us take a single instance. It concerns the waste of human life and happiness by intemperance. The position of Mr. McElroy here is in brief, that none die or suffer by intemperance who would not have died or suffered from some other vicious cause. And further, that it is a modern sentimentalism which bewails the loss of the brave and brilliant—for, as a fact, the brave and the brilliant cannot be said to be depleted by drink.

Such a narrow fashion of standing on a few exceptions, like a goose on one leg, is certainly not to be endorsed. There is nothing new in the doctrine of the article—it is as old as the earliest freethinking tractates.

But the ignorance of it is refreshing after this lapse of time, and the assumption of it is pleasantly Pharisaic besides. There is none of the large charity or genial breadth of view which we might expect from a person who was proposing to reform the Christian code of ethics. It is, on the other hand, as full of fatalism as a Bedouin sheik's creed—and altogether as rapacious in its destruction of social order.

And, moreover, it is not true. The vices which we deplore are every one of them the monstrous excrescences and fungous outgrowth of things originally good. Vice is the mockery of virtue, and the man who follows the Devil instead of God is chasing the phantasm of his own advantage and profit, and allying himself to the Pretender and not to the King. No one will ever do wickedness except for his own benefit—real or supposed. And when we look at drunkards we find that at the root of their folly and sin lies much that is noble. Ungenerous and sour natures are seldom lost by this vice. But the open-hearted and open-handed—the quick-witted and the over-worked or over-worried people—these suffer. Are they not worth saving? "No," says Mr. McElroy, "let 'em perish."

Charming Mr. McElroy! He must surely be a man with a shortsighted brain. He would multiply the chances of idiots, madmen, and desperadoes to deal out destruction enough in their short years of existence to make it terribly hard for the patient toilers to repair or remove it. He would reduce men to a Mecca caravan by whose side the dead drop unheeded, and would say as some new victim falls: "Oh, he's dead—the dog! Good enough for him!"

Mr. McElroy's fault is that of the purblind, peering thinkers who do not scan the whole horizon and discern the other aspects of the case and who say, "There, that is splendid! It has swept the street and saved us the trouble!" It has only tumbled down what ought to fall. Hurrah for tornadoes! But, after all, there are those of us who are not yet disposed to give up the regular broom and scraper work. It accomplishes more in the end, and, besides, it is much safer.

## FRESH AIR FOR THE POOR AND SICK.

A most beautiful charity was started a couple of years ago by the *Evening Post*, the *Times*, and *Tribune*, and with the co-operation and guidance of the Rev. Mr. Parsons. Its purpose was to give an "outing" to the sick and poor children of the great metropolis, who were dying in such alarming numbers through lack of pure air. The railroads and steamboat companies heartily assisted the work, as they have done ever since. Money was subscribed and acknowledged in the columns of the various papers under the general caption of the "Fresh Air Fund." And to this generous and thoughtful charity many thousands of children owe their first knowledge of green fields, and birds, and flowers, and country scenes.

This stimulated a society in Newark, whose purpose was already of the same

general character. It seemed an easy matter to effect this new benevolence when once the path had been broken by such a pioneer as Mr. Parsons, and we understand that he has given to the "Female Charitable Society" his efficient counsel and assistance. The present season is therefore their second term of service in this sort of benevolence, and they are now fully equipped and experienced. Their report, presented last November, shows a gratifying result for their first year of work in this department. Forty-two adults and two hundred and thirty-three children—a total of two hundred and seventy-five persons—were sent to twenty-one places for visits which varied in length from a few days to a month as the cases appeared to require. This was effected at an average cost of \$3.65 a fortnight for adults and \$4.53 for children. The difference in ratio is due to the fact that six women and forty-one children were entertained without expense, by some of these kind hosts, while others, unable to give the entire amount of their board and lodging, reduced this to a minimum of expenditure for the society. These average sums also include all expenses for travelling, escort, boarding, badges, and everything necessary in dispatching and returning the various parties. The entire receipts of the Fresh Air Fund in Newark were \$1,465.51, and there was a balance of \$142.68 remaining above all expenditures.

For the present summer, the Committee of the Female Charitable Society, 72 Clinton St., consists of Mrs. Frederick Crane, Mrs. Benjamin Stites, and Misses Anna Woodruff and H. E. Merry. They make their appeal—which the CITIZEN heartily endorses—for the sympathy and support of all their neighbors. The past winter in Newark has been very sickly—a fact which will never improve until Newark has a new water supply—and consequently the need will be great and the cases of distress will be very numerous.

To ourselves, blessed as we are with good air to breathe and good water to drink, it seems incredible that we have a dense and diseased population so near our very doors. But Newark, anywhere except in the immediate vicinity of New York, would be a notably large city—and in Newark fully as much as in New York population seethes, and teems, and sickens, and dies.

It will be something to remember if through financial or personal aid this charity can be helped onward by us. To give some struggling woman a little rest; to take that old, wizened look from some baby's face; to lift the burden of care from some child's prematurely aged heart—this is work of the sort which He commended who said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto Me."

We have only to add that we will cheerfully receive and acknowledge any sums contributed for this purpose.

## BUSINESS NOTICES.

THE Montclair and Greenwood Lake R. R. are offering excursion tickets to the lake at low rates. Sunday-schools, lodges, etc., may obtain special rates by addressing the Excursion Agent. See advertisement.

THE discomfort of the hot weather this week was augmented by swarms of mosquitoes which the south wind blew up from Newark. Gaze & Tienken's mosquito nettings will keep out the pests; and, if you care to dress in that sort of material, will also keep you cool.

ATTENTION is called to the advertisement of the second annual excursion of the Order of Chosen Friends to Greenwood Lake, on July 6. The train will stop at Bloomfield and Montclair, each way, to accommodate those who desire to join the excursion from those points.

## List of Letters

Remaining unclaimed in the Post Office at Bloomfield, N. J., on Wednesday, June 6, 1883:

Brennan, Thomas. McGovern, James.  
Colwell, C. R. & Co. Marriatt, James.  
Clarke, Peter. Miller, Chas.  
Dewitt, John. Miller, W. J.  
Donnelly, M. C. C. Moran, Bridget.  
Dobbler, M. J. Profeki, Marce.  
Elliott, Mrs. Spencer, Edward.  
Galloway, Myra. Ward, Mrs. Sarah W.  
Hadley, R. L. White, Henry.  
Zeffelin, Max.

Any person calling for the above will please ask for "advertised" letters.  
H. DODD, P. M.

## POST OFFICE NOTICE.

The Mails will Close and Arrive at the Post Office in Bloomfield as follows:

By way of Newark & Bloomfield Railroad.  
Close at 7 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.  
Arrive at 8:30 A. M. and 5:30 P. M.  
By way of New York & Greenwood Lake Railroad.  
Close at 8:45 A. M. and 5:00 P. M.  
Arrive at 9:45 A. M. and 5:30 P. M.  
HORACE DODD, Postmaster.  
Bloomfield, N. J., Feb. 13, 1883.

Bloomfield Fire Association.—NOTICE. Subscribers to the fund for purchase of apparatus for protection of life and property from fire are requested to remit the amount of their subscription to the Secretary, at an early date, to Post-office, Bloomfield. FRANK G. TOWNE, Secretary.

## EXECUTOR'S SALE.

The subscriber, Executor of the last will and testament of the late Mary Van Riper, deceased, will sell at Public Auction, on the premises, Tuesday, May 23, 1883, at 2 P. M., the House and Lot, situated on Thomas Street, in Bloomfield, New Jersey, belonging to the late Mary Van Riper, deceased. Terms cash.

HORACE DODD, Executor.  
Bloomfield, New Jersey, June 2, 1883.  
The above sale stands adjourned to June 13th, same place and hour.

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Attorney and Counsellor at Law.

Office, 750 Broad Street, Newark, N. J.

Residence: Elm Street, Bloomfield.

Acknowledgments, etc., taken.

EDWIN A. RAYNER,

Attorney at Law,

Office, 757 Broad Street, Newark, N. J.

Residence: Washington Street, Bloomfield.

Acknowledgments, etc., taken.

WILLIAM R. WEEKS,

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